

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-17. (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A latex of halogenated vinyl polymers, wherein the latex further comprises a basic agent selected from the group consisting of alkali metal phosphates, mixtures of alkali metal phosphates, mixtures of another basic agent with an alkali metal phosphate and mixtures of another basic agent with mixtures of alkali metal phosphates in an amount such that the pH is less than 5 than or equal to 4.5 and wherein the halogenated vinyl polymers are vinylidene-chloride polymers wherein the vinylidene-chloride polymers comprise at least 50% by weight of vinylidene chloride.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The latex of halogenated vinyl polymers according to Claim 18, wherein the basic agent is trisodium phosphate.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The latex of halogenated vinyl polymers according to Claim 18, wherein the pH of the latex is greater than 2.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The latex of halogenated vinyl polymers according to Claim 18, wherein the latex additionally comprises a wax.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The latex of halogenated vinyl polymers according to Claim 18, wherein the halogenated vinyl polymers are chlorine-comprising polymers.